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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**TAX PREPARER SENTENCED FOR TAX FRAUD AND WORKER'S  
COMPENSATION FRAUD**

**GREENBELT**, Maryland - Thomas M. DiBiagio, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced that John A. Williams, age 57, of Upper Marlboro, Maryland was sentenced today by U.S. District Court Judge Peter J. Messitte to 40 months in prison followed by 3 years of supervised release after a jury convicted him for worker's compensation fraud and aiding and assisting in the preparation of false tax returns. Judge Messitte also ordered Williams to pay \$144,443.58 in restitution to the Department of Labor's Office of Worker's Compensation Programs (OWCP) and to the Internal Revenue Service.

The case is a result of a two-year investigation by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and the IRS - Criminal Investigative Division. Trial evidence established that Williams began receiving worker's compensation in the early 1990's after he was found to be disabled in connection with his job at the U.S. Postal Service. In order to continue to receive disability benefits from OWCP, Williams was required to notify OWCP of any change in work status every year. From about 1998

until 2002, Williams falsely certified to OWCP that he was not working, when, in fact, he was running a tax preparation business called J.W. Enterprises and a business called Williams Accounting Services. During the course of an investigation, the IRS discovered that Williams was preparing false and fraudulent tax returns. He had created fictitious deductions, expenses and other information on the Schedule A's and Schedule C's of multiple individual income tax returns for several years.

During the sentencing hearing, the court also found that Williams obstructed justice during the course of the prosecution of the case when Williams lied while testifying at trial.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Gina L. Simms.

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